It Must Not be Ignored.

ED. AGITATOR: I have noticed an inclination on the part of the F. M. B. A and the Alliance to ignore the prohibition question. In this issue of your paper I merely wish to warn the brethren against this lukewarmness. brethren against this lukewarmness, or coldness, on this subject, and perhaps at some other time I will have more to say. The prohibition question must not-cannot-be ignored by the farmers. F. M. B. A.

New Movement Among Farmers.

[By Scott F. Hershey, published in the Midland]

The other day I was casually walking along the street, when a friend standing in a doorway called me in, and invited me to look through the establishment in which he was a bookeeper. It proved to be the printing house of the "National Economist," the official organ of the National Farmers' Alliance, and Industrial Union. I was surprised at the magnitude of the growth of a paper, the existence of which I barely knew. And I was amazed at the magnitude of the movement represented by this paper. I had known that for several months there was quite a stir among the farmers of the land, and that they had a publication here at the capital. Beyond that I knew little. Within twenty minutes a new world had opened to me. I saw the most positive evidence of one of the greatest revolutions in thought and legislation that has yet come to this country. Here is a paper of sixteen pages only fourteen months old, and has 29,000 paving subscribers. For a conservative, solid sheet, this is perhaps unprecedented in the history of American newspapers. This rapid growth indicates the immense and startling spread of the powerful organizations

was strongest in the west and south, Texas has the largest number of members and Kansas comes second. This increase is by the thousand per week, and now and then a swell tide rolls over a certain section and ten thousand new members will be enrolled

in a single week.

There is, beyond all precedence, a flood tide of thought, conviction and action rolling through the agricultural communities. The farmers of the land think they have been imposed on by all sorts of cunning sharks. They think the laws have inadequatehave been defrauded by the moreyed combinations against which they have protested in vain. They think their interests have not been preserv ed by legislation. They think they have been betrayed by legislature and congress, which are most always under the domination of lawyers. to sustain these complaints, like the ancient yeomen of our country, they make an appeal to facts. They claim the soil is just as fertile as in years gone by. They claim they toil just as hard. They claim they economize as carefully. They claim they exercise even more care in the choice of seed. Notwithstanding these facts, the val-ue of farming land has been slowly decreasing, and the bottom is not yet reached. And they protest against becoming a class of serfs. Their case is strong and they make it out well.

Their complaint that congress is often nothing more than a legislative power to betray the people's rights and money to overpowering monetary combination, is at times quite correct. They do not forget the terrible indictment of Oliver P. Morton in

which he said : "There is gathered around the cap-ital of this nation a gang of pirates who have driven this government in-

to the most preposterous acts of bad faith and legalized robbery that ever oppressed a free nation since the wn of history."

that party public streets and parks in this city, for which the company does not propose to pay anything. The value of this public property is worth ten million dollars. It belongs to the whole people of the United States. But because members of congress are paid a princely price to work and vote for this bill they are willing to de-fraud the people. Atkinson, of Pennsylvania, and Buchanan, of New Jersey, are straining hard to give this bill a good run. Their constituencies are largely farmers. This movement now in congress is nothing short of a moral outrage on the farmers and tney ought to know it.

The present movement among the farmers is a birth of the times, whose mother is necessity. Its growth and presperity lie in the very genius of events political, and conditions agricultural. The fealty of the agricultoral classes to justice, right and pat-riotism is a record of history. The very best movements in political economy have always sprung from the

Washington, D. C.

Of Course It's Robbery.

There is an increasing number of writers and speakers who unhesitatingly declare that the farmer has been systematically, persistently and outrageously robbed. We need not go so far as this, not so much because the statement is untrue as because it has a hard, disagreenble sound, and seems so extravagant in its nature as to repel many candid people from a calm investigation of the facts in the case. If the granary of a single farmer be entered in the night, for which it speaks.

I was told by the manager of this enterprise that the Farmers' Alliance act would be termed that and the actor a thief, and if caught he would punished as one.

> If the granaries of all farmers had suffered the same treatment it would be the most gigantic robbery on record, but a crime of what we may call the unpunishable size. If it should appear that instead of this last supposition, by means of the skillful manipulation of legisla tion, one-third of the selling price of the contents of all the farmers' granaries I ad been kept out of the hands of the lawful owners, would not the farmers be just as badly off in this as in the other case when we called it robbery? What matters it to the farmer whether the just reward of his labor is taken from him or kept out of his reach?-E. M. Burchard in National View.

> > Farmers' Defense Association.

The farmers in the vicinity of Lockport, N. Y., have a society under the above name. The association is organized for the mutual defense of its members against the collection of the bonded grain notes which so many of the farmers of western New York were induced to give by the alleged agents of the Pennsylvania Seed company (limited) during the past two years. The temporary organization effected at a previous meeting was made permanent and a constitution and bylaws adopted. An executive committee of one in each town was appointed to act with the officers in managing the affairs of the association and assist in receiving members from their respective towns. 'A large number of farmers has already joined the association, and any person who gave notes of this kind and wishes to defend their The association is to pay the expenses of defending all of its members who are sued in these notes, and each member is to pay his proportional share.-Lockport

Cursing Many to Please the Few.

The whole amount of tax on spirits and liquors collected in the country is over \$63,000,000 per annum, an average to each person of \$1.50. In New Jersey the average is \$2, in Maine the average is three cents. So says The New York Independent. Whereupon an exchange philosophizes: "Happy New Jersey! collecting a tax on liquors to the amount of \$2 for each inhabitant; and poor Maine! collecting only three cents for each person. It must be a wonder to these revenue pleaders how the state of Maine succeeds in running its government with so small a whisky revenue. Let them visit that state, as we have done, and take observations. If they stay long enough to get cured of 'liquor on the brain,' so that they can see and reason clearly, they will find a happy state of things where liquor is not made to curse the many in order to fill the pockets of the few.

The Pulpit and the Stage.

Rev. F. M. Shrout, Pastor United Brethren Church, Blue Mound, Kan., "I feel it my duty to tell what wonders Dr. King's New Discovery has done for me. My Longs were badly diseased, and my parishioners thought I could live only a tew weeks. I took five bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery and am sound and well, gaining 26 lbs. in weight.

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"The decalogue and the golden rule have no place in a political campaign. The object is success." -- John J. In-

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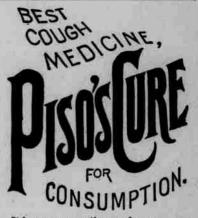
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